## EACH OF US CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO A CLEANER 2007

- Commute to work by mass transit, including rail, bus, or other commercial transportation. Most employers provide incentives for their employees to take alternative modes of transportation.
- In the market for a new car? Check out DriveClean.ca.gov, for clean car choices.
- Save paper. When working at your computer, either at home or at work, do you really need to "print" the messages you have received?
- Recycle. The three "R's": Reduce, reuse, and recycle. Here are some "easy" examples:
  - Buy only what you need. No one likes throwing out food.
  - Use a rag to wipe spills rather than a disposable towel.
  - Recycle your paper, cardboard, bottles, and cans.
  - Reuse the bag that your lunch came in for another day.
- Consider installing a solar energy roof. The Governor's Million Solar Roofs initiative rewards consumers who install solar energy systems.
  Did you know that one million solar roofs will provide the output equivalent of five modern electric power plants?
- Thinking about doing some painting? Here are a few tips to help reduce your impact to the environment:
  - Never dump paint or related products in the gutter or storm drain.
  - o Clean water-based paint from brushes in a sink, not outside with a hose.
  - Clean oil-based paint from brushes with paint thinner, which can be reused.
  - Donate unused paint to local anti-graffiti organizations.
  - Take all unwanted paints to your local Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center.
- Clean technologies:
  - Lawnmowers: Did you know that 1 hour of lawn mowing using a 2005 mower emits as much emissions as the cleanest vehicle driving 792 miles? Exchange your old gas-powered mower with a new electric one. Air Districts throughout California will be hosting "mow down days". This is your opportunity to exchange that old polluter for a cleaner and more efficient one.

- Dispose of cigarette butts in an ashtray and/or trash can, not on the ground or out the window of a moving vehicle.
- Bag it. Pets don't know what's right or wrong, but you should:
  - o Pick up after your pet. Use a plastic bag (recycle).
  - Throw away pet waste in the garbage, not in the gutter or storm drain.
- Keep your yard/garden green by:
  - Use pesticide and fertilizers that are non-toxic.
  - Avoid over watering after applying pesticides or fertilizers.
  - Never apply pesticides or fertilizers before it rains.
  - Bag or compost yard waste.

These any many more ideas/suggestions can be found on the Cal/EPA webpage under the various agencies: Air Resources Board, Department of Pesticide Regulation, Department of Toxic Substances Control, California Integrated Waste Management Board, and the State Water Resources Control Board. Check it out. Learn more about what YOU can do at <a href="http://www.calepa.ca.gov">http://www.calepa.ca.gov</a>. Happy New Year!